Area of Concern (AOC) No. 1101: Building 885 Septic System, TA-I

ADS: 1295
Operable Unit: Septic Tanks and Drainfields

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Site History

Historical SNL/NM Facilities Engineering drawings indicate that this system consisted of a septic tank and one or two seepage pits located approximately 50 feet or more north of the northwest corner of Building 885. No other historical research has been conducted for this site.

Constituents of Concern

Constituents of concern are unknown.

Current Hazards

No known surface hazards have been identified.

Current Status of Work

No information has been found to indicate that the septic tank still exists, or that residual tank contents (if any) have been sampled or removed.

A field inspection at the site was conducted in October 1999 and the current or former location of the seepage pit was found to be under an asphalt parking lot north of Bldg. 885, on the north side of TA-I. The location of the unit was based on a detailed engineering drawing that was made before the parking lot was constructed. An attempt was also made to locate this system using ground penetrating radar (GPR) in June 2002, but the seepage pit was not conclusively identified from this work. It was therefore unknown if the unit was still in existence when the GPR survey was performed.

To determine if environmental contamination is present beneath this system and in accordance with agreements reached with NMED personnel, sampling was conducted at this site. A Geoprobe sampling rig was mobilized to the site on October 21, 2002, and a line of north-south and east-west holes spaced three feet apart, and originating at the unit location shown on the pre-parking lot engineering drawing were drilled in an attempt to locate this unit. Holes were drilled to a 15-foot depth, and were stepped out 9 feet from the origin point in all four directions, but no subsurface unit was encountered. It was there forefore decided to drill the single soil sample boring at the location shown on the engineering drawing. Drilling refusal was encountered at 23 feet below the surface, and it was assumed that the seepage pit had been encountered. The drill was then moved 5 feet south of the first location, and a second attempt was made to collect soil samples. This attempt was successful, no refusal occurred, and soil samples were collected at depths starting at 25 and 30 feet below the surface.

Soil samples collected from this boring were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), total cyanide, high explosive (HE) compounds, metals, and radionuclides.

Future Work Planned

This site may be selected for deeper environmental characterization sampling if analytical results from the shallow sampling indicate potentially significant contamination at depth.

Waste Volume Estimated/Generated

No environmental characterization or remediation waste has been generated at the site to date.

Information for ER Site 1101 was last updated Jan 23, 2003.